

REMARKS:

Claims 31-40 are presented for examination, with new claims 31-40 having been added and claims 1-4, 6 and 8-30 having been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

To begin with, it is noted that claims 1-4, 6 and 8-30 have been cancelled. Thus, the rejection of these claims made in the August 26, 2003 Office Action has been rendered moot.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that each of new claims 31-40 is patentably distinct.

Finally, it is noted that this Amendment is fully supported by the originally filed application and thus, no new matter has been added. For this reason, the Amendment should be entered.

More particularly, support for new claims 31 and 36 is found in claims 1-9, as filed; at page 1 line 26 to page 2, line 19, page 4, line 24 to page 5, line 18; in Figs. 1-3; and throughout the specification.

Further, support for new claims 32 and 37 is found in claims 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9 as filed; at page 1 line 26 to page 2, line 19, page 4, line 24 to page 5, line 18; in Figs. 1-3; and throughout the specification.

Further still, support for new claims 33 and 38 is found in claim 4, as filed; at page 2, lines 20-22, page 5, lines 2-5; in Fig. 3; and throughout the specification.

Further still, support for new claims 34 and 39 is found in claims 5, 7 and 8, as filed; at page 2, lines 23-27, page 3, lines 6-19, page 5, lines 6-26; in Figs. 1-3; and throughout the specification.

Further still, support for new claims 35 and 40 is found in claims 6, 7 and 9, as filed; at page 2, line 23 to page 3, line 19, page 5, lines 6-26; in Figs. 1-3; and throughout the specification.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
GREENBERG TRAURIG

By:


Matthew B. Tropper
Registration No. 37457

Dated: February 26, 2004

Mailing Address:
GREENBERG TRAURIG
885 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022
(212) 801-2100
Facsimile: (212) 688-2449

BEST AVAILABLE COPY